

Appl. No. 10/827029

In the Claims:

Listing of all claims:

1-19 (Canceled.)

1                   20. (Currently Amended) A device for the  
2                   production of tubular bags filled with bulk goods from a  
3                   continuous foil tube moving in a run direction comprising:  
4                   at least a pair of tool mounts that follow an  
5                   orbital movement, wherein the tool mounts have a near end  
6                   and a distal end, and wherein the near end is linked to a  
7                   device that imparts the orbital movement to the tool mounts;  
8                   a first pair of opposing tools, each mounted on  
9                   one of the pair of tool mounts, that cyclically engage the  
10                  tube and seal the foil tube in bag-length intervals during a  
11                  portion of the orbital movement;  
12                  a second pair of opposing tools, each mounted on  
13                  one of the pair of tool mounts, that remove bulk goods from  
14                  the area of the seal by a wiping motion effective in the run  
15                  direction, linked to follow a path responsive to the orbital  
16                  path; and  
17                  a pair of opposing passive devices, each mounted  
18                  near the distal end of each tool mount ~~carrier~~, effective  
19                  during at least part of the portion of the orbital movement,  
20                  wherein the passive device affects the path of ~~a pair of~~ a  
21                  selected pair of the first and second pairs of tools mounted  
22                  on the carrier such that the distal end of the selected pair  
23                  follows a path parallel to a path the near end of the  
24                  selected pair follows.

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1           21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim  
2 20, wherein the pair of passive devices is effective during at  
3 least all of the portion of the orbital movement.

1           22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim  
2 20, wherein the pair of passive devices is effective during at  
3 least the time the tube is engaged.

1           23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim  
2 20, wherein the pair of passive devices is linked to the second  
3 pair.

1           24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim  
2 20, wherein the pair of passive devices includes a tracer pin.

1           25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20,  
2 further comprising a second pair of opposing passive devices,  
3 each mounted near the near end of each tool carrier, effective  
4 during at least part of the portion of the orbital movement,  
5 wherein the second pair of passive devices affects the path of  
6 the second pair of tools mounted on the carrier.

1           26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim  
2 20, further comprising a second pair of tool mounts, each having  
3 tools mounted thereon as did the first pair of tool mounts.

27. (Withdrawn) A method of producing tubular  
bags filled with bulk goods from a continuous foil tube  
moving in a run direction comprising:

moving a pair of tool mounts in an orbital  
movement, wherein the tool mounts have a near end and a  
distal end;

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moving a first pair of opposing tools, each mounted on one of the pair of tool mounts, cyclically to engage the tube and seal the foil tube in bag-length intervals during a portion of the orbital movement;

moving a second pair of opposing tools, each mounted on one of the pair of tool mounts, and removing bulk goods from the area of the seal by a wiping motion effective in the run direction, and following a path responsive to the orbital path; and

using a pair of opposing passive devices, each mounted near the distal end of each tool carrier, during at least part of the portion of the orbital movement, to affect the path of a selected pair of the first and second pairs of tools such that the distal end of the selected pair follows a path parallel to a path the near end of the selected pair follows.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein using is performed during at least all of the portion of the orbital movement.

29. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein using is performed during at least the time the tube is engaged.

30. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 27, further comprising linking the pair of passive devices is linked to the second pair of tools.